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LONDON CHAPTER
OAS

March & April 2014

14-3 & 4

Summer is here, which means it is time for the

OAS LONDON CHAPTER PICNIC & ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION DAY!

The event is scheduled for **July 19, 1-4:00**

at the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum, Longwoods Road Conservation Area.

All are welcome.

Speaker's Night is held the 2^{nd} Thursday of each month (January to April and September to December) at the Museum of Ontario Archaeology, 1600 Attawandaron Road, near the corner of Wonderland & Fanshawe Park Road, in the northwest part of the city. The meeting starts at 8:00 pm. Doors open at 7:30 PM and as usual there will be free juice and cookies!

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MEADOWOOD PHASE OCCUPATIONS ON THE CARADOC SAND PLAIN

by Chris Ellis and D. Brian Deller

PREFACE

This paper was one delivered at the Annual Meeting of the *Canadian Archaeological Association* in Fredericton, New Brunswick in May 1989 in a session entitled: *On the Fringe in the Homeland: Non-Iroquoian Archaeology in Southern Ontario*, organized by Neal Ferris. Some aspects are outdated. Nonetheless, we believe it is important to get the paper into the published record as it brings to the attention of a wider community a number of Early Woodland sites that exist on the Caradoc Sand Plain just west of London. Many of these sites do not exist in government site records as they represent locations that were recorded by Brian Deller extending back to the 1950s and so pre-date archaeological licencing/site recording. Also, we have learned that, for whatever reason, not all sites with Borden designations are necessarily in the government inventories. In some cases the sites are know only from examining local farm/landowner collections with only brief field forays to confirm the locations – several have not been examined in detail in the field. Since these farm collections were viewed many years ago it is also probable that the collections have been dispersed or their provenance lost. We include a summary table listing all the locations used in the study but omit specific locational details such as lot and concession. However, such details are on file at the Great Lakes Archaeology lab, University of Western Ontario, should they be required by interested researchers. Also, summaries including drawings of artifacts and such can be found in Brian Deller's detailed record books/field notes of his numerous surveys in southwestern Ontario.

We have left the text largely as it was in the hand-written(!!) paper that Ellis read at the conference, a notable difference being we have added references that were available at the time. However, we have also inserted, where needed, numerous footnotes that update information on Meadowood from more recent work including important references that have appeared since the original paper was written. Indeed, we use these footnotes as an opportunity to respond to some subsequent work which has questioned our interpretations of certain Meadowood sites reported here and elsewhere (e.g., Ellis et al. 1988) and to correct some errors in our original statements.

INTRODUCTION

In the eastern Great Lakes area the dominant Early Woodland manifestation is the Meadowood Phase (ca. 2800-2400 BP). Of course, Meadowood has long been known from New York state where it was first defined by William Ritchie and where a number of sites are reported (e.g., Funk 1973; Granger 1978; Ritchie 1944, 1955, 1969:180-200). The New York work has allowed the construction of: 1) relatively detailed models of Meadowood lithic procurement, manufacturing and recycling strategies and 2) models of Meadowood settlement and subsistence systems (see especially Granger 1978). More recently, a number of sites have been documented across southern Ontario and into Michigan, Quebec and farther afield.[1]

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[1] There are some major recent summaries/syntheses of data on these sites and ones reported earlier for Ontario and other areas, such as Spence et al (1990), Taché (2011a, 2011b) and Wood (2015).

This recent work has provided several insights into this Early Woodland manifestation. For example, at least in southwestern Ontario it has been demonstrated that Meadowood is clearly a direct outgrowth of the preceding Terminal Archaic developments in the same area. This Terminal Archaic material has begun to be called “Small Point Archaic” and subsumes a wide variety of materials previously referred to as Inverhuron Archaic, Glacial Kame and so on (Spence and Fox 1986). Continuity from later dating Small Point developments such as Glacial Kame include similar point styles and certain distinctive artifact forms common to both such as trianguloid preforms (cache blades), t-based drills and of course, birdstones.[2] However, despite such advances our knowledge of Meadowood in Ontario is far behind that of New York state. Knowledge of tool kits has been hampered by a lack of large lithic assemblages suitable for detailed analyses. Knowledge of settlement-subsistence systems has been hampered by the fact that most reported Ontario sites are quite small and consist largely of mortuary components and small, seemingly fall occupied, camps (Spence and Fox 1986; Spence et al. 1978; Williamson 1978, 1980).

In this paper we report on a number of Meadowood sites, some with substantial lithic assemblages, in one area of southern Ontario: the Caradoc Sand Plain.[3] These sites do allow documentation of Meadowood lithic artifact production and recycling strategies in southwestern Ontario and permit at least preliminary attempts to develop more refined models of Meadowood subsistence-settlement systems in that area.

THE CARADOC SAND PLAIN

The Caradoc Sand Plain (Chapman and Putnam 1984:146) encompasses an area of ca. 800 km^2 just west of London, Ontario. It extends from just inland of the Thames River on the east and south, northwest into the parallel drainage of the Sydenham River on the north and west (Figure 1). As the term implies, the area is one of very sandy soils. As a whole the Plain is actually a large delta formed in late glacial times where the prehistoric Thames River discharged into pro-glacial Lake Whittlesey at ca. 13,000 BP (Eschman and Karrow 1985:84). Much of the plain, by definition, is actually quite flat, a notable exception being along its margins on the west and south where it forms a series of elongated sandy ridges that extend out into and overlook areas of lower, more poorly drained, terrain. These marginal areas have a relatively rolling terrain with plenty of sheltered areas.

The plain as a whole is within the rich Carolinian Biotic Province (Dice 1943). Early land records indicate the sand plain then, and presumably extending back to Meadowood times, supported a prime mast forest. The more elevated areas supported either oak-hickory or maple-beech dominants while the lower surrounding areas supported largely black ash swamp (Ian Kenyon: personal communication).[4]

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[2] These similarities are discussed in detail in more recent sources such as Spence et al. (1990) as well as in Spence and Fox (1986).

[3] We also report here on sites on the Thames River adjacent to the sand plain.

[4] Williamson (1985) provides more detailed information on the nature of the sand plain environment in his study of the later Early Late Woodland occupation of the same area.

Table 1: Meadowood Sites in Caradoc Sand Plain Vicinity.

Map (figure 1) #	Site Name	Details/Comments
1	Pierce-Howe	Several points, drills/perforators/small Onondaga debitage; FCR
2	Hardy	Small (ca. 240 m^2); partially in woodlot; point fragments; 2 drills; Onondaga debitage; FCR; may be trapezoidal gorget from this site
3	Roland	Small lithic scatter on Onondaga chert
4	Sutherland	Multi-component; 3 or 4 Meadowood points; small thin, Onondaga flakes
5	Chisholm	Larger site (perhaps 0.25 ha); single component; 3 fragmentary points; nubbin-eyed birdstone preform; lots of flaking debris
6	Bristol	On small knoll; examined only once; several fragmentary points, large amounts of small, thin, flat Onondaga flakes
7	Bristol II	On small knoll; Meadowood points an d some small Onondaga flakes
8	Unnamed	Apparently relatively large and maybe >0.5 ha; Several points and although Meadowood seems main component are other components present
9	Trott	Small to medium-sized site; 2 popeyed birdstone preforms
10	Mullin	Medium sized; several points and 2 popeyed birdstones
11	Unnamed	On 2 sandy knolls; fragments of six or seven points; drill fragments; lots of flaking debris on Onondaga
12	Unnamed	Small (<100 m^2); several points, small amount of Onondaga debitage
13	Unnamed	Small (<100 m^2); some points, small amount of Onondaga debitage
14	Kish	Multi-component; definitely has Terminal Archaic as well as Meadowood occupations; two Meadowood points and lots of flaking debris
15	Matthews	Multi-component and even has Early Archaic points so hard to estimate size of Meadowood component; Tow Meadowood points
16	Kovacs	Site as a whole is large but is multi-component and so hard to estimate size of Meadowood component; has some point fragments and at least one cache blade covered in red ochre
17	Unnamed	Hard to estimate size but has large concentrations of debitage; a few Meadowood points, several cache blades and a pop-eyed birdstone reported

18	Unnamed	Small concentration with typical small Onondaga chert flakes; several cache blades reported
19	Unnamed	Small; several Meadowood points
20	Scott Wales	On bluff overlooking river; many Meadowood artifacts including 3 or 4 pop-eyed birdstones; multi-component
21	Riverside	Multi-component with lots of debris from later occupations
22	Heel	Multi-component so hard to estimate size but appears large; 14 or 15 Meadowood points; gorget and popeyed birdstone; subsequent CRM excavations by Peter Timmins
23	Brodie B	Several points and other flaked stone tools; one finished and two unfinished birdstones; trapezoidal gorget; see Ellis et al. (1988: Table 1)
24	Brodie A	Bifacial end scrapers; pendant or gorget fragment; see Ellis et al. (1988: Table 1)
25	Brodie C	Points, end scraper, drill, perforators; see Ellis et al. (1988: Table 1)
26	Wishing Well	Largely destroyed; information in Jury records at Museum of Ontario Archaeology; at least six unfinished and one finished birdstone reported/collected by Jury and others (e.g., Joe Chillingworth collection)
27	Unnamed	Isolated burial with birdstone
28	Edwards	Meadowood point, two cache blades; six t-shaped drills, three expanding base drills, side-notched end scraper; nutting stones; three birdstones; more detailed information in Pearce et al. (1980)
29	Neeb	See Spence and Fox (1986:19)
30	Stewart	Some Meadowood points; is multi-component with occupation extending back to Hi-Lo times
31	Welke-Tonkonoh	Large with many artifacts and apparently dense features; see Ellis et al. (1988)
32	Lambert	Large – see Ellis et al. (1988) and in text and footnote discussion; are several points, preforms and other artifacts
33	Longwood	Small, limited debris (subsequently excavated, was spatially bigger than our estimate and had three separate concentrations treated as separate sites [Cushman, Hammett, Willow]); one has birdstone and Vinette I ceramics; see footnote 5 & Mayer, Poulton and Associates [1989])
34	Glen Oak	Several Meadowood tools; at least 0.25 has in size but may extend into adjacent woodlot and be bigger; also has extensive Small Point Archaic component

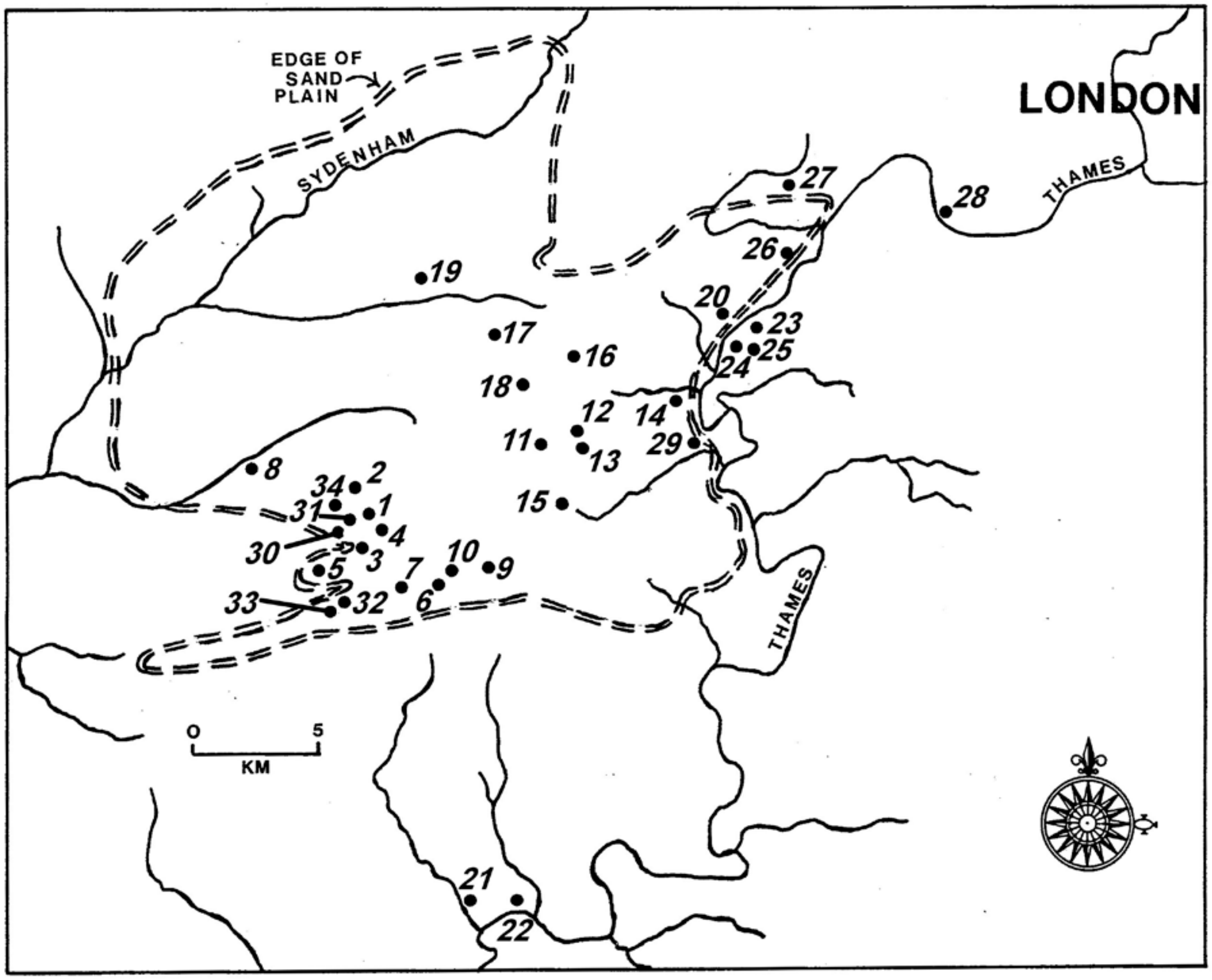

Figure 1: Location of Sites on Caradoc Sand Plain and Adjacent Areas. See Table 1 for site key.

THE SITES

Since the 1950s Deller has conducted intensive site surveys in the Caradoc area. These surveys have revealed a number of Meadowood sites. Including a few sites reported by others, some 34 sites[5] have been recorded (Figure 1; Table 1) both on the Plain itself and along the adjacent Thames River on the east. As well as a large number of isolated surface finds are known. Survey has been biased to the southern half of the sand plain and this bias is evident on Figure 1. Nonetheless, at least in the southern area almost all fields have been examined and any patterns in the data from that area are more likely to be real ones.[6]

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[5] This total has been revised slightly from the original totals given in the paper (N=33) to correct an error in the earlier counts.

[6] It is worth noting that a number of other Meadowood components, not discussed here, have been subsequently found/reported in the general area (see Wood 2015) and some have been excavated (e.g., Wilson 1993, 1999). As well, one site noted here (Longwoods, Map #33), that we recorded as simply a single site as the material was from one lot, was also investigated. It was discovered that three discrete concentrations were actually present at that

ARTIFACT ASSEMBLAGES

Our artifact assemblages are almost exclusively from surface collections off of ploughed fields. Indeed, only three sites have seen minimal excavation during mitigation or research projects carried out by others. Our samples from the sites are exclusively lithic with the distinct Meadowood ceramics, Vinette I (Ritchie and MacNeish 1949), being totally lacking. We expect, indeed know, such ceramic occur in the area. Yet, because Early Woodland pottery is not well-made and hence, is of limited durability, it is easily destroyed on cultivated sites.[7] Suggestive in this regard is the fact that on the two sites where these ceramics have been recovered in both cases the material came partially from subsoil pits excavated during mitigation projects (e.g. Neeb site; Spence and Fox 1986:19-20).[8]

In any case, the available lithic assemblages range from five to over 100 Meadowood artifacts per site (Figure 2). In many cases these totals represent only a fraction of what is undoubtedly present at these sites not only because they are almost exclusively surface collected but because many of the sites have been intensively collected for long period of time by relic hunters. These relic collections are largely impossible to document as provenience data was not maintained. Among the tools made on cherts, there is an almost exclusive reliance on Onondaga chert, which accounts for >90% of the assemblages.[9] This material outcrops some 125-150 km southeast of Caradoc but extensive secondary deposits with good quality material do occur some 50 km away on the Lake Erie shore.[10]

The focus on Onondaga, to the virtual exclusion of other cherts, is characteristic of Meadowood elsewhere and contrast with the more open-ended approach to chert source use seen among other

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location which were recorded as individual sites: Cushman (AfHj-52), Willow (AfHj-54) and Hammett (AfHj-56) (Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989; Dana Poulton: personal communication).

[7] Early Woodland pottery also may have been used in limited contexts versus later times, also accounting for its rarity (see Jackson 1986; Ozker 1982; Taché and Craig 2015).

[8] Additional Vinette I pottery has subsequently been recovered in mitigation (e.g. Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989) or research excavations (Wilson 1999) in the general vicinity. In these cases the pottery often came from sub-ploughzone contexts such as pits (e.g. Wilson 1999:16) although there are exceptions such as the Cushman site (AfHj-52; our Longwoods site, see footnote 5) where the small number of ceramic fragments recovered were all ploughzone finds (Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989).

[9] Excavated sites where the flaking debris can be more easily assigned to the Meadowood Phase occupation show a similar bias (e.g., Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989). Indeed, although flaking debris was not collected, the sites on the sand plain typically have an abundance of small, thin Onondaga flakes.

[10] Wilson (1993) and others make reference to the fact Onondaga occurs in local till sources in the Caradoc area. Some items on reported sites seem to have original surfaces of secondary deposits (e.g. Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989) but in our experience these local till cherts consist of fairly low grade material in smaller pieces whereas the higher quality of much of the material used on the Meadowood sites for more formal tools and preforms are more suggestive of outcrop or near outcrop secondary sources. Moreover, secondary sources also include other cherts so they may be using the outcrop sources or carefully selecting from local ones only Onondaga. In fact, and as stated in the in text discussion, even the secondary sources may be non-local. Better concentrated secondary sources of Onondaga can be found to the south in the Lake Erie vicinity (e.g. Ellis et al 1991; Fox 2009:362) and definitely were used by Meadowood knappers in that area (see Spence and Fox 1986:22). Regardless, we do not doubt that some secondary source use occurred but the presence of numerous Onondaga caches of trianguloid Meadowood preforms and also evidence for the intensive production of such items near/at the outcrops (e.g. Fox 1981, 1984; Williamson et al. 2009) suggests outcrop material was widely dispersed by Meadowood peoples (see also Kenyon 1980a, 1980b; Taché 2011b:47-48; Wilson 1999:11).

pre-contact groups in the Caradoc area, including even the preceding Small Point Archaic. The reason for this focus does not seem to be technological factors or simple availability of material. Social and ideological factors seem to be involved in source selection as suggested by Granger (1978).[11]

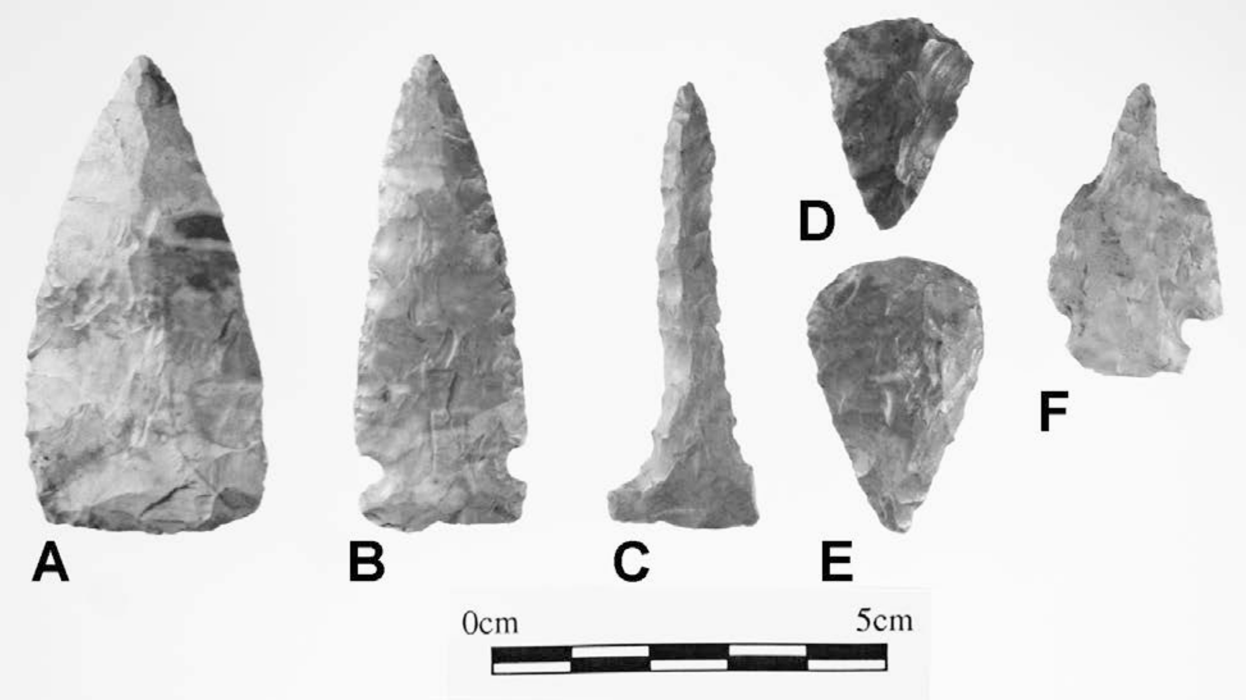

Figure 2: Examples of Meadowood Flaked Stone Artifacts from Caradoc Area Sites. A: Cache blade; B: Point; C: T-based drill; D: Bifacial end scraper on point base (Note notch remnants at corner of bit end); E: Bifacial strike-a-light on point or cache blade tip segment; F: Perforator on point base.

As for the tools themselves (see Figure 2), they are often typical of Meadowood elsewhere but there are some exceptions we will note. Points conform largely to the classic side-notched Meadowood style (Kenyon 1980a; Ritchie 1971).[12] The only very rare exception are the odd somewhat thick item on Kettle Point chert, some of which have a somewhat atypical, markedly convex "rocker" base – such rocker based forms, whether on Onondaga or not, are referred to by Granger (1978:Figure 2.2) as the Meadowood "Ontario variant" but they are actually rare on the sand plain. Also present are trianguloid preforms or cache blades with the largely convex base more typical of Meadowood preform examples (Kenyon 1980b).

The drills include expanding-based, t-based or side-notched forms with the blunt tips and long wide isolated fore-sections. There has been a tendency in the past to lump in with the drills items that have very small, short and narrow, pointed tips. However, the markedly different working end morphology and wear polish placement suggest these are functionally distinct from the larger drills and we prefer to call them “perforators” (e.g. Ellis et al. 1988:6). The perforators are largely made by recycling side-notched points but a few are known made on cache blade tips or very rarely on flakes.[13]

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[11] Such explanations are also entertained by more recent writers (e.g. Taché 2011a).

[12] The identification of the Caradoc site points as Meadowood is disputed by Wright (1999a:620, 1999b) but as Ellis (1999a, 1999b) has shown there is no doubt they are Meadowood points exactly like those from New York state -- and of course, are included as such in Taché's (2011a, 2011b) and others recent work on Meadowood. We note that many of the items from sand plain sites such as Welke-Tonkonoh (Ellis et al. 1988) are illustrated in Taché (2011a: Figure 2.9) but they are erroneously stated in that report to be from the Bruce Boyd site on Lake Erie.

End scrapers with steeply retouched convex bits are also ubiquitous. Although end scrapers occur in several forms, the most common ones are the same as on New York sites: bifacial examples made by recycling points, cache blades or fragments thereof. Some items even have evidence of more than one recycling episode. For example, one recovered artifact was first a side-notched point, then an end scraper at its base and then a perforator. Other end scraper forms occur. Some, although rare, are placed at the old tip ends of side notched points instead of the usual basal end or wider end of a snapped biface tip segment. Other examples are unifacial forms on flakes and they include trianguloid forms that were probably hafted at the tapered end. Others are simple, perhaps hand-held, flake scraper forms and, as is characteristic of Meadowood elsewhere (e.g. Granger 1978: Figure 1.2), they can be made on linear/“blade-like” flakes or on biface thinning flakes.

Also recovered are flint strikers that burial data from New York state indicates were used with iron pyrites as parts of fire-making kits (Ritchie 1944:341, 355, 1955:33). These are all made by recycling points or making them on transported cache blades so are bifacial and like the bifacial end scrapers, more triangular in outline shape with the striking surface at the wider end. Whereas end scrapers have the characteristic beveled working end, the strikers have a symmetrically centred edge in working end view, which is blunted and highly rounded and polished through use.

Other characteristic chipped stone tools include: multi-notched, bifacial eccentrics; distinctive biface forms called longitudinal scraper/knives in New York (Granger 1978:214); and other simple tools such as gravers, denticulates and side scrapers. The last two named tool forms can even be made on cache blades. Two cache blades have narrowed, alternatively beveled tips suggesting some form of knife use, perhaps while hafted.

As for the assemblage on coarser-grained rocks, in addition to pitted nutting or anvil stones these artifacts also include, of course, pop-eyed bar or expanding body birdstones (e.g., Figure 3) amongst which unfinished examples are quite common. Some sites in the Thames River vicinity have yielded upwards of five or six examples.[14] Gorgets of various forms also occur including the odd distinctive Meadowood trapezoidal form. Finally, there are adzes. Some of these have the flaring and slightly hollowed out bit characteristic of Meadowood in New York state (Ritchie 1969:193).

Overall, therefore, the stone tool assemblages include, and allow documentation of, the total range of Meadowood tool types reported from New York state. However, there are a number of other tool forms, largely recycling varieties, not previously reported, including end scrapers at tip ends, alternately beveled cache blades, serrated cache blades, etc.[15] These assemblages show that there is an impressive variety of ways of recycling cache blades and points and, as in New York state, they allow for the construction of quite detailed flow models of the lithic reduction of these items in the Caradoc area (see Ellis et al. 1988: Figure 6).

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[13] Examples on flakes have now been reported from some other southwestern Ontario sites, notably Beaverbrook in the city of London (Wood 2015).

[14] At least one campsite on the interior of the sand plain has subsequently yielded another example (Cushman [AfHj-52]; Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989:15).

[15] Subsequently, still other recycling varieties have been reported from Ontario sites. For example, Timmins (1992:14) reports a Meadowood point from the Billiard site on which one basal corner below the notch was made

The frequency of recycling is also impressive. Indeed, we know of no prehistoric manifestation in southern Ontario (including Paleo-Indian) where recycling occurs into so many varieties and at this scale. To get some idea of the recycling frequency, we have calculated the total number of notched items complete enough to be, or definitely were, recycled. We then calculated the percentage of the actually recycled items for sites as shown on Table 2. From 37-50% of the notched items were recycled at least once. We note this is a minimum estimate as it is probable several other notched bifaces were recycled into items such as bifacial end scrapers, a process which can remove all traces of the former notches. It is worth stressing that this high percentage of recycling differs from the preceding Small Point Archaic (from which Meadowood presumably derives) where only 16.7% or less are recycled (Table 2).[16]

We would relate the high rate of recycling in Meadowood to the focus on Onondaga chert sources and especially for cache blade and point production (e.g., Ellis et al. 1988). By limiting production to certain geographically restricted sources, one is forced to develop procedures to extend the use-life of tools and recycling clearly represents one way of accomplishing this end. At the same time by restricting procurement of the chert to only certain localities in overall patterns of the settlement ranges of these groups, much of the uses of specific tools must have taken place in situations somewhat removed in time and space from the actual procurement of the toolstone. In such situations it is difficult to predict the exact needs of each tool form. Therefore, recycling into different tool forms to meet diverse uses has advantages in meeting these unpredictable tool demands.[17] So, at least in terms of proximate causes, we would explain the contrasts with the earlier Small Point Archaic recycling frequency and even the large variety of recycling forms, as due to such factors.[18]

It is also possible that the suggestion of standardized core reduction for some Meadowood tools but apparently not Small Point Archaic ones, such as the consistent use of linear flakes is also

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into a perforator and another identical example is reported by Wilson (1993: Figure 8b) from another site near the Thames.

[16] An expanded and slightly revised version of this table with more site data added was subsequently published by Ellis and Spence (1997: Table 10).

[17] If one agrees that the Onondaga focus reflects the important role of that source in social and ideological contexts, as we surely do, the higher value placed on that material, regardless of accessibility, may also have favoured making thorough use of this valued material.

[18] Parenthetically, and as argued here, if one limits the sources one uses, material restrictions may force people to use strategies to extend the use life and portability of the material. Such strategies have been noted for Meadowood elsewhere but these strategies have been interpreted there as indicating that these peoples had a high settlement mobility at the time particular sites were used (e.g., Cowan 1995:605). However, we suggest the cause of this is more the result of the “mobility of lithics” (e.g. one if forced to carry them around longer by focusing on that Onondaga material) than the “mobility of people” (see Ellis 2013 for discussions of this same interpretive conundrum in a Paleo-Indian context).

related to the Onondaga focus.[19] It is usually argued that standardized reduction produces more useable flakes per unit of material than a more random reduction.

Table 2: Recycling Frequencies Compared.

Designation	Site	Ratio of Recycled to Total Notched Items	Recycling Percentage
Terminal (Small Point) Archaic	Welke-Tonkonoh Area B	0/4	0%
	Thedford II	1/6	16.7%
	Knechtel 1	1/6	16.7%
	Rocky Ridge	1/6	16.7%
	Innes	0/14	0%
Meadowood	Welke-Tonkonoh Meadowood Area (Area A)	20/54	37.0%
	Glen Oak	9/17	52.9%
	Brodie Sites (A-C)	6/11	54.6%

SETTLEMENT AND SUBSISTENCE SYSTEMS

Interpretations of Meadowood settlement-subsistence systems in the Caradoc area must of necessity be tenuous. It is possible however, to make some provisional suggestions as to the place of the sites in these Meadowood systems based on site locational data and comparison of what is known from other areas, particularly in New York state.

In western New York, the work of individuals such as Joseph Granger (1978) has produced settlement subsistence models for that area. It is doubtful that this model can be applied everywhere for Meadowood, particularly in more northern areas in the Canadian Biotic Province (e.g. southeastern Ontario and adjacent areas; see Dice 1943). However, it may be a useful guide for the southwestern Ontario components situated in a similar environmental zone to western New York (e.g., the Carolinian zone).

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[19] This statement is actually incorrect and reflected our more limited reading habits at the time. Retouched linear flakes do occur on Small Point Archaic sites such as at Knechtel I (Wright 1972: Plates IV-11, V-6, VI-13-17) and have been subsequently reported from other sites such as Green Hill (Pearce and Ellis 2008:14).

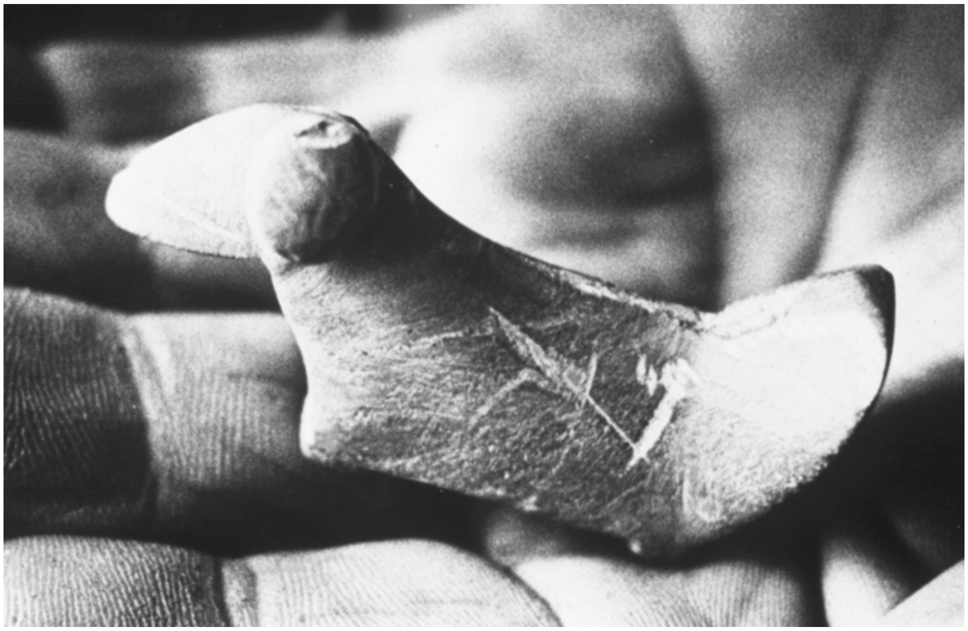

Figure 3: Pop-eyed Birdstone from the Heel Site (Map Location #22). This item was in a farm collection for years. A popeye broken off the opposite side to that shown was excavated many years later in a CRM project directed by Peter Timmins.

Briefly, and in a highly oversimplified manner, the New York data has been used to suggest population aggregations in the spring at mortuary sites for purposes of communal ritual endeavours. Domestic activities in the spring are, however, not clear or easily specified. Then, in the summer populations dispersed into relatively smaller units in areas near shallow lakes where fishing was an important subsistence activity. Finally, in the fall and into the winter, local populations aggregated in larger base camps in areas of prime mast forest where nuts (stored for winter use) and deer formed the mainstay of subsistence.

With this overview in mind we can begin to look at the Caradoc sites. These sites fall into two main groups. The first, as indicated by stars on Figure 4, includes those on the Thames River flats or immediately adjacent to the flats on north bluffs overlooking the Thames. The remaining sites are located a km or more away on the interior of the sand plain (circles and squares). We will call all of these interior sites and focus on them first. This interior grouping includes at least 29 confirmed sites and probably numerous others which are listed presently as isolated finds but these locations have not been examined in enough detail to see if they are in reality, sites.[20]

We would suggest these interior sites are largely cold-weather (e.g., fall and/or winter) related ones. Certainly, their location in interior sheltered areas suggests this interpretation, not to mention their location in upland, nut-bearing, forests. This interpretation is also suggested by the fact few are near locations where warmer weather resources, notably fish, could be procured in any quantity and in this sense they also correspond location-wise to the pattern for such sites seen in New York state. Moreover, at least on the southern half of the sand plain there seems to be a decided concentration in marginal areas of more rolling topography adjacent to low lying black ash swamp. The numerous sheltered areas and perhaps the swamp itself would provide good yarding areas for deer in the winter.

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[20] As listed in an earlier footnote, still other sites have been subsequently reported. For example, investigations at the site we called Longwoods suggests it represents three sites (Cushman [Afhj-52]; Willow [AfHj-54]; and Hammett [AfHj-56]). Moreover, at least one other site (Beaufort [AfHj-51]) with a Meadowood component was investigated near the western edge of the Sand Plain prior to Hydro line related work in the area (Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989).

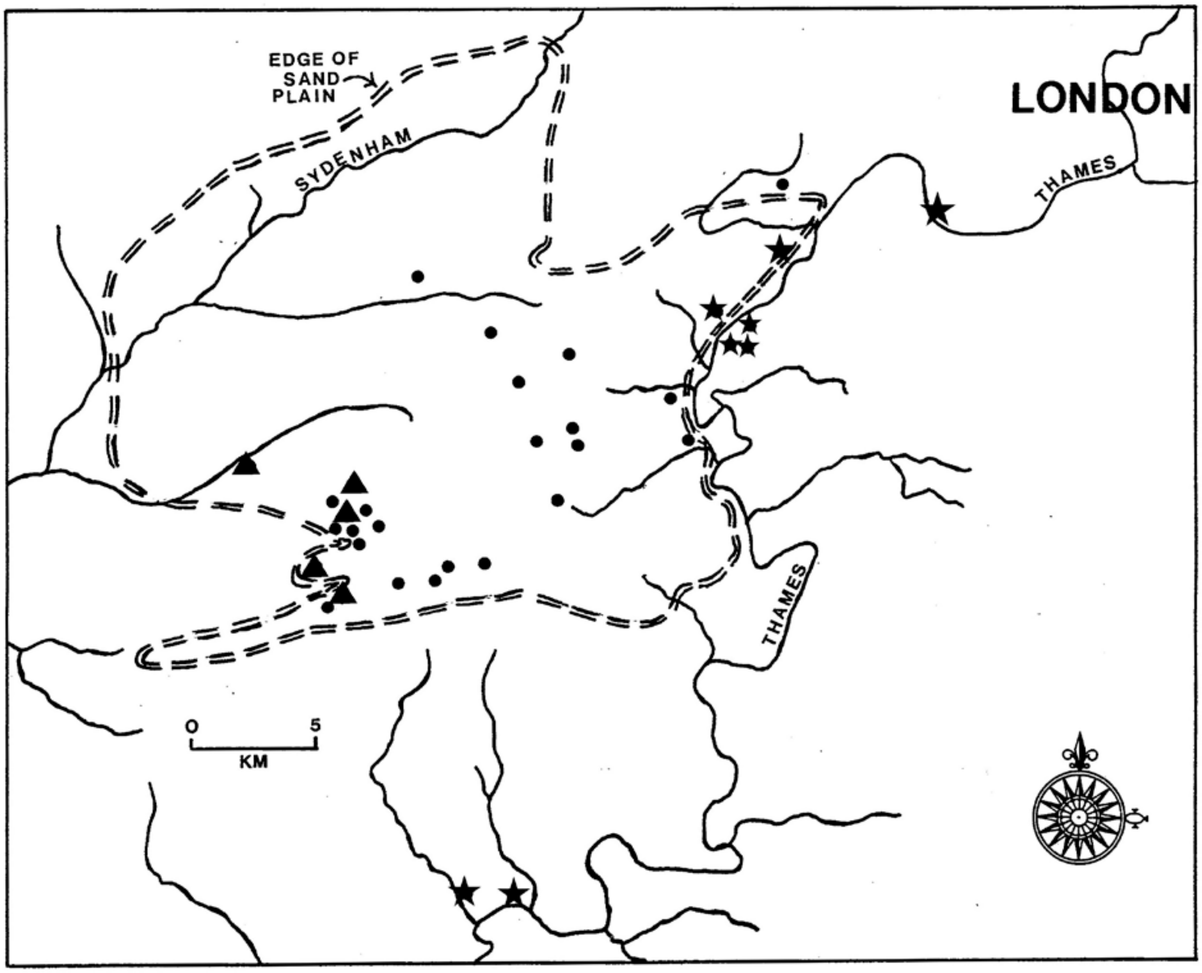

Figure 4: Thames River Area (stars) and Sand Plain (triangles and circles) Site Locations. Triangles indicate larger site locations that may be interior base camps.

Overall the interior sites can be divided into two groupings. One, represented by at least 20 sites (circles on Figure 4), consists of small sites (<50 to 100 m^2) with small artifact yields (ca. 10 or so tools). We would suggest these are mainly fall/winter extraction or satellite camps as suggested elsewhere in Ontario. The other grouping includes the sites marked by triangles on Figure 4. These sites are quite large and include the spatially largest Meadowood sites yet reported for Ontario, ranging from ca. 0.25 to 0.9 ha in size and blanketed with Onondaga debris. The largest may be the Lambert site (Ellis et al. 1988).[21] These sites are quite clearly comparable spatially to the larger fall/winter base camps reported for New York state.[22] They also seem to have comparable sized artifact assemblages in terms of the number of artifacts recovered. It is difficult to make statements of assemblage size for the Caradoc sites because many have not been intensively examined. In addition, many are multi-component and so it is not easy to sort out the less diagnostic simple flake tools on these sites such as Welke-Tonkonoh (Ellis et al. 1988). However, just based on the frequency of more complex diagnostic tools, Welke-Tonkonoh, a simply surface collected site, has comparable frequencies to the best documented (and excavated!) suggested western New York winter base camps such as Riverhaven #2 and Scaccia (Funk 1973; Granger 1978; see Table 4). It is also notable that the New York sites have dense pit and other feature clusters and some test excavations at Welke-Tonkonoh by Ronald Williamson (personal communication) suggest such dense feature clusters are present at that site.[23]

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[21] Our assessment of Lambert was based on limited examinations that did not involve piece-plotting of materials and notably the investigations of Ellis (1981) who was more interested in its Hi-Lo component on the northern portion of the site. The argument for a large spatial extent is based on the distribution of the Onondaga chert debris characteristic of Meadowood sites that is seen in the southeastern segment of the site -- the actual number

As for the sites closer to the Thames River, it is difficult to relate these to the suggested western New York settlement and subsistence model. It is notable that all those sites adjacent to the sand plain (and even in other areas; e.g., Wyoming Rapids; Kenyon 1979) are actually located at major rapids on the flood plain itself or on bluffs overlooking the flood plain and are quite large. Even today modern foragers gather in the early spring at those rapids to exploit the fish runs.

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of diagnostic tools surface collected was small (11 artifacts including three Meadowood points; Ellis et al 1988: Table 1). Subsequent intensive CRM work in the area by Mayer, Poulton and Associates including piece-plotting of finds and larger numbers of items led to the suggestion the site is composed of at least six discrete components/areas, some of which date earlier and later than Meadowood and that it is much smaller than our estimate (see Wilson 1993:14). In sum, it has been suggested the site is not as spatially large as indicated by the limited earlier work and that it has many components. We note that we were aware the site had other components, including not only Hi-Lo and probable fluted point occupations but also Archaic ones on other parts of the site. However, in discussions with Dana Poulton and Christine Dodd who did the work at the site, and by examining the detailed maps of the locality made by them, we noted that they only examined the northwestern segment of the site/lot on which the site we called Lambert was located -- that is the only segment of the site that was within the area to be potentially impacted by a hydro project that precipitated the site work. The large Meadowood component we refer to as Lambert is on the southern half of that lot (southeast to be precise) and so *was not examined by them*. Regardless of Lambert's status, even if it was small (which we doubt!) other sites in the area such as Welke-Tonkonoh and Glen Oak (Ellis et al. 1988), are much better studied and documented. They do cover 0.25 ha or more in terms of spatial extent and diagnostic artifacts are quite common based on surface collections (75 and 22 items respectively) and at densities much exceeding those recovered from other sites including the excavated ones at Longwoods such as Cushman.

[22] We note looking at the map (Figure 4) that all these large sites are near the southwestern edge of the sand plain and overlook the lower areas of more poorly drained soils that seem to have housed black ash swamp or better deer yarding areas in winter.

[23] Some subsequent investigators have stated that sites like Lambert are not as large spatially as we argued (Wilson 1993:14). As discussed in footnote 20 the Lambert Meadowood site as we reported is not in the northern half of the lot examined in those subsequent projects. It is also noted that spatially larger sites (0.25 to 0.5 ha) more thoroughly excavated by the more recent CRM projects on the sand plain (e.g., Mayer, Poulton and Associates 1989) did not encounter dense feature clusters and actually relatively few diagnostic artifacts; these investigations make it unlikely the spatially large interior sites represent winter components. We agree that the work at those *specific* sites makes the idea that all *spatially* large sites are winter base camps highly suspect. However, it does not rule out the possibility that sites like Welke-Tonkonoh with their very large artifact yields and apparent dense features are examples of such winter sites. Welke-Tonkonoh, and we believe Glen Oak as well, are unlike any of the sites investigated in the CRM studies, perhaps not in terms of spatial extent but they most certainly are in terms of artifact yields.

Locations immediately adjacent to such rapids in our sample include sites such as Brodie (Ellis et al. 1988), Heel (Map #22) or the nearby Scott Wales site (Map #20; see also Table 1). In the subsequent Middle Woodland, spring population aggregations occurred to exploit spawning fish such as sucker and walleye at such rapids. Ian Kenyon (personal communication) has recently suggested this practice was the case in Small Point Archaic times as well.[24] In short, populations could have moved en masse in the spring from nearby interior base camps to the river to exploit the fish runs.[25]

Overall, these suggestions for the place of the Caradoc sites in Meadowood settlement-subsistence systems are speculative. Regardless of whether one accepts them or not, it is clear that at least the very large sites reported here represent an aspect of Meadowood settlement and subsistence differ from the small camps, caches and mortuary sites previously reported for Ontario.

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[24] This idea was subsequently published by Kenyon in Ellis et al. (1990:114-115).

[25] It is clear that the viewpoint we had of river area sites was highly oversimplified. Notably, subsequent research in this Thames area has found other sites and apparently as a whole all these sites vary considerably amongst themselves. Wilson (1993) has emphasized the differences between sites in the area that he refers to as floodplain sites (<2.5 m above the Thames River level and which would include sites in our sample such as Brodie A and Brodie B), terrace sites on slightly more elevated locations (>2.5 m above the Thames River level), and the ones just back from the river on much more elevated bluff tops that overlook the floodplain (such as Scott Wales and Wishing Well that we included in our sample). However, the meaning/cause of such differences in site location are not clear. Excavations were carried out at Pocock, one of the terrace sites, by Wilson (1993, 1999). He concludes that it was occupied "primarily during the late summer to fall, and may possibly have extended into the winter months" (Wilson 1999:23). The absence of spring spawning fish is noted and this absence certainly suggests the idea that *all* these Thames River area sites represent spring gathering sites for among other things, fish exploitation, is incorrect.

Possible winter (and fall) occupation is suggested at Pocock based on the presence of houses outlined by post molds. Deep features are present, which notably included a 75 cm deep bell-shaped pit with a narrower top than bottom. This pit is clearly a storage pit and ethnographically they are usually used to store plant surpluses, their smaller tops being more easily sealed off (see DeBoer 1988: 3-4; Roth and Wellman 2001; Sakaguchi 2009: 294). Of course, stored foods are used mainly to get through the leaner winter months. It is suggested such storage pits may also indicate winter use of a site like Pocock. If one accepts such arguments, then the idea the larger interior sites such as Welke-Tonkonoh are winter occupations may be incorrect or that winter occupation strategies were much more variable than usually implied.

On the other hand, there is nothing in the house structures at Pocock, such as evidence of them being dug down into the ground (e.g., semi-subterannean), to suggest winter use. Also, ethnographically the presence of large storage pits actually more often indicates winter *abandonment rather than occupation*. DeBoer (1988) for example argues that people primarily store in ground to hide surpluses from neighbours or to hide/protect stored products from raiding by other people or animals when the occupants are absent from a site (see also Driver and Massey 1957:247; Gotthilf 1982). It is entirely plausible that the storage pits filled with goods were left at sites when they were abandoned in the winter and the occupants moved to nearby sites such as interior ones on the sand plain. If one is not exploiting large areas, one can easily return to the site to recover some stored products when needed. Alternatively, one can travel at winter's end/early spring when resources are at their lowest ebb, access the stored foods, and live off them until the early spring spawning fish arrived or use them as a supplement to the fish resources. These exact kinds of strategies were employed ethnographically by Great Lakes area native peoples (e.g., Holman and Krist 2001: 9). In sum, a range of settlement-subsistence models are still possible including the idea that some nearby interior sand plain sites with larger artifact assemblages are winter base camps.

Acknowledgements: We thank Neal Ferris for inviting us to participate in the 1989 CAA symposium and in doing so getting us to sit down and collect and report on data in a more accessible form. We also thank Bob Pearce who provided information about the Edwards and Wishing Well sites and Dana Poulton and Christine Dodd who provided detailed information on their work at Meadowood sites in the area.

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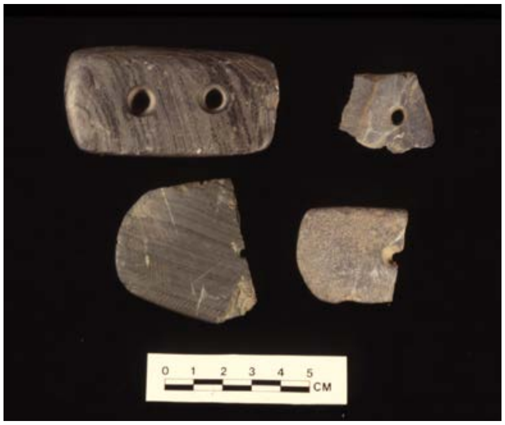
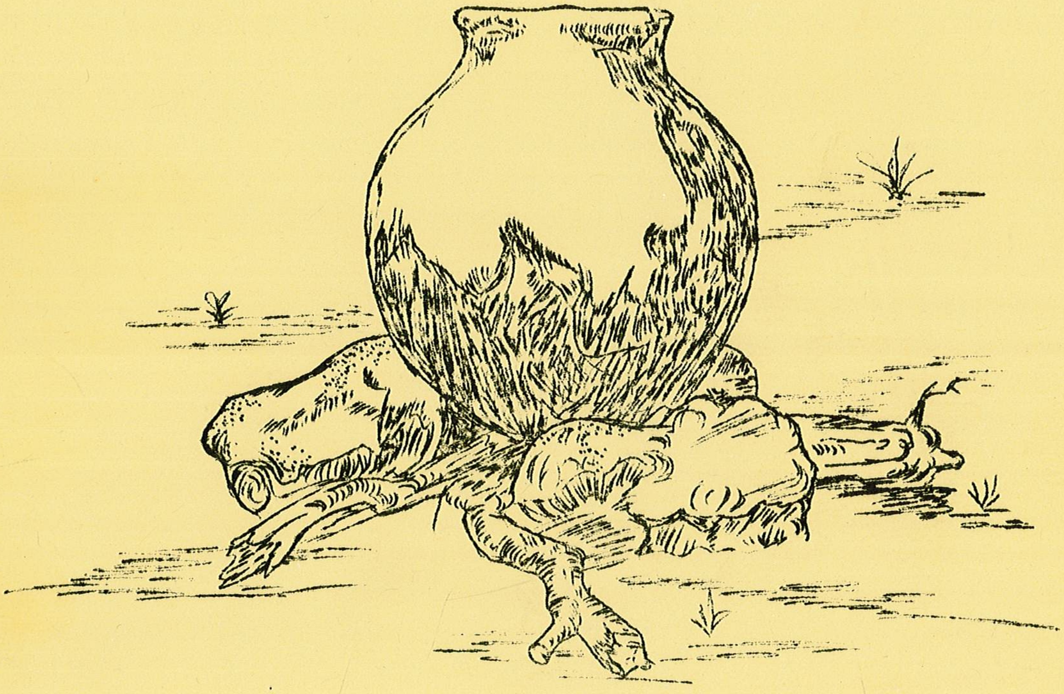


Meadowood Gorgets from Caradoc Sand Plain sites.

In the remainder of this *Kewa* we present the second installment of our reprints of the publications of the former Archaeological Society of Western Ontario. While those publications were focussed mainly on Ontario, occasionally they included material from other geographic areas. Notably, the issue reproduced below (Bulletin, Volume II, Issue I, 1965) included material on the archaeology of the southwestern United States. As our main goal is to reproduce material of interest to Ontario Archaeology we have omitted those articles from this reprinting.

BULLETIN OF THE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN ONTARIO



Vol. II JANUARY - 1965 No. 1.

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Secretary's address: 1665 Kathryn Dr., London, Ont.

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A DESCRIPTION OF A COLLECTION OF GREEN LIMESTONE ARTIFACTS

* by Joe Chillingworth

These artifacts were found on a table-top or centre rise from the bank of the river Thames to the top of the hills behind it. The depression in front of this site is swamp and black muck. West of this are two or three small ponds, one of which is of sulphur water that attracts many wild ducks.

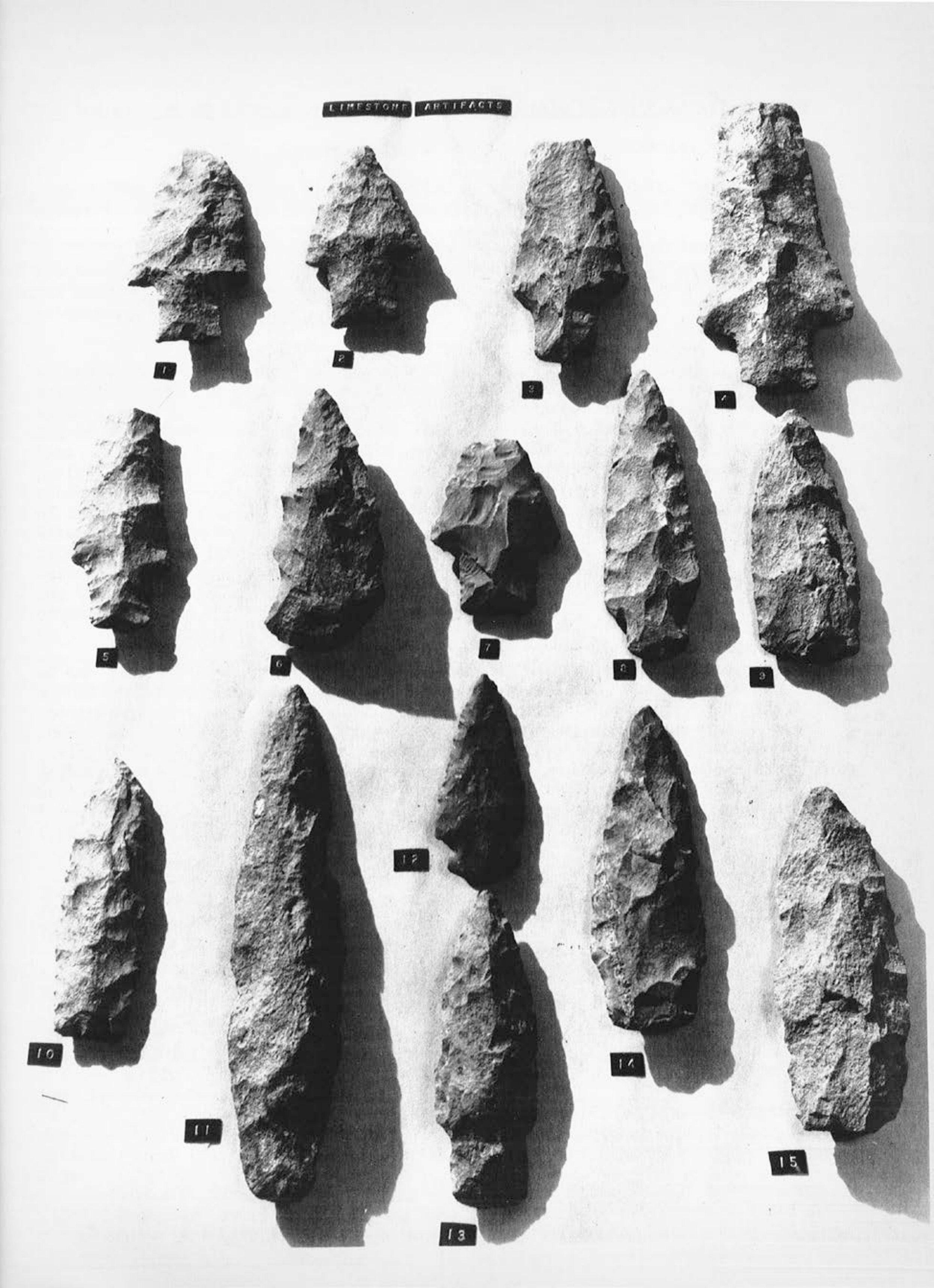
The ground is sandy on the east side, turning to a dark loam at the site. About 12 to 14 inches below this soil is gravel. There are numerous springs large and small in the vicinity. It is an ideal spot as it is sheltered by the hills behind it, the topsoil could be easily worked and it is very convenient to the Thames River.

Not all the artifacts found here are of green limestone. Some are a grey mottled flint, chalcedony, jasper, obsidian and a few quartz arrowheads have been found. All these artifacts have been surface finds. They consist of spear heads, arrowheads, rough axes and knives and hoes or spuds, one of which is of red slate. All the artifacts that I have found at this site are straight shanked. Nos. 12 & 11 were found about 4 miles from this site but are also of green limestone.

According to the information I have been able to gather, these limestone artifacts are not found any farther than 35 - 40 miles from this site and that the outcropping of the material is not far away. The green colour tends to go from a dark green to an ivory white depending on the length of time it has been exposed to the elements.

If anyone can give me any further information on this subject, it would be greatly appreciated.

* Joe Chillingworth, 53 Sterling st., London, Ontario.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The Rediscovery of a forgotten Ossuary in the Township of Nottawasaga, Ontario

by Chas. Garrad, 453 Jellicoe Cr., London, Ontario.

The Montreal Daily Witness edition of January 15th, 1906, reprinted a report it had originally published 60 years before I.E. 1846, as follows:

> "A remarkable discovery was made in the 4th concession of the Township of Nottawasaga, Simcoe County, of a hole beneath a tree containing between five and six hundred skulls, 40 pounds of brass, several brass kettles, and several hatchets..."

By the inventory-like listing of the ossuary contents it seems likely that it had been already completely dug out at the time of the 1846 report. The eagerness with which the pioneers looted these burials has been commented on by several writers. A.F. Hunter includes an eye-witness account of the ransacking of an ossuary near Phelpston, Twp Flos, which was found in 1882, and by 1886 "little is left but fragments and it would be almost impossible to find even one perfect skull." If the pioneers ever paused to wonder if history would sadly condemn their desecration and weigh the destruction they caused against the value of the utensils which they sought, it certainly didn't bother them at the time. After the novelty had worn off, the owner usually would fill the hole and level it off if it lay in a workable field, and thus the exact location, in time, became lost and forgotten. As part of a programme to update the records pertaining to Nottawasaga Township, the writer undertook, this Fall, to locate the ossuary featured in the faded newspaper clipping.

Reference to records previously compiled by the writer revealed mention of two fairly large ossuaries in the 4th concession, one being on Lot 3, the second on Lot 5. The ossuary on Lot 3 is well documented, the writer having located eight references to it in various publications, three of which give the number of kettles found as 13, one source says a dozen, the other sources not giving a number. The newspaper clipping says "several" kettles. The second ossuary, on Lot 5 yields five references, none of which give the number of kettles. It would seem most likely therefore that the report applies to the Lot 5 ossuary. But such a lot contains 400 acres, so the ossuary was a long way from being found.

The next step was to re-examine the five available references.
They are:
(i) BOYLE, David. Annual Report of the Canadian Institute, Session 1888-9, Toronto 1889.

On page 9 of this report is a map of the Township of Nottawasaga, showing a symbol for "ossuary" in the centre of this lot. There is no confirmation in the text.

(ii) BRUCE Lt-Col G. W. in a paper "The Petuns" read at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society held at Collingwood, Ontario, July 20th, 1906, (page 39 of Ontario History 1906)

"On Lot 5 concession 4 ... of the Township of Nottawasaga have been found (an) immense ossuar(y)"

(iii) HUNTER Andrew F. M.A. "Archaeological Sites in Simcoe County" original notes handwritten in seven notebooks, lodged with the Curator of Ethnology, Royal Ontario Museum (partial copies in possession of the writer), site # 203, notebook # 3:

"203 - Village Site and Ossuary - Lot 5 con 4 Nottawasaga. Robert Woods (1887), Whimster (1901) Rhodes (young man) (1905). Brass kettles were found in the ossuary. Apl 28th 1905. About 50 years ago, before Mr. Woods owned the farm, and when it was all in bush, someone found an Indian fort with bonepits. There were copper kettles, iron tomahawks, etc. It was on a round-topped hill, ½ mile east of the 4th line. I had the place pointed out to me from the fourth line to-day by a Samuel Somerville .... Mr. Somerville saw piles of skulls (hundreds) dug out ..."

(iv) HURON INSTITUTE Monday May 25th 1908 "Many Sites of Indian Villages" apparently the report of a search team, probably published. Copy in possession of the writer supplied from hand written notes of the late Mrs. F.E. Webster of Creemore, Ontario, now owned by Mrs. Alice Emmett of that village:

"In the afternoon we directed our course along the south hills of Nottawasaga running parallel to the Mad River, in whose level bottom lands is found what may be considered the garden of the Township. Arriving at the farm of Mr. Rhodes, Lot 5, Con 4, we took advantage of a private road with the two-fold object of visiting an ossuary situated on the point of a high sandy hill, and of taking a near cut to the South Line of the Township. Evidences of the location of this ossuary are still plainly visible."

(v) HURON INSTITUTE PAPERS & RECORDS VOLUME ONE, Collingwood 1909, page 18: "Indian remains have been found on ... Lot no 5, con 4, Tp Nottawasaga" map facing page 42 shows symbol in W ½ of the lot.

Local enquiries led us to Mr. Arnold Rhodes, now living in well-earned retirement on Wellington Street, Creemore, who proved to be the same gentleman whose youthfulness had impressed A.F. Hunter in 1905. Mr. Rhodes had farmed lot 6 as well as lot 5, and could not remember the location of the depression exactly. He thought that all surface indication had long since disappeared, but confirmed it was on a hill, and added that nearby was an old barn foundation.

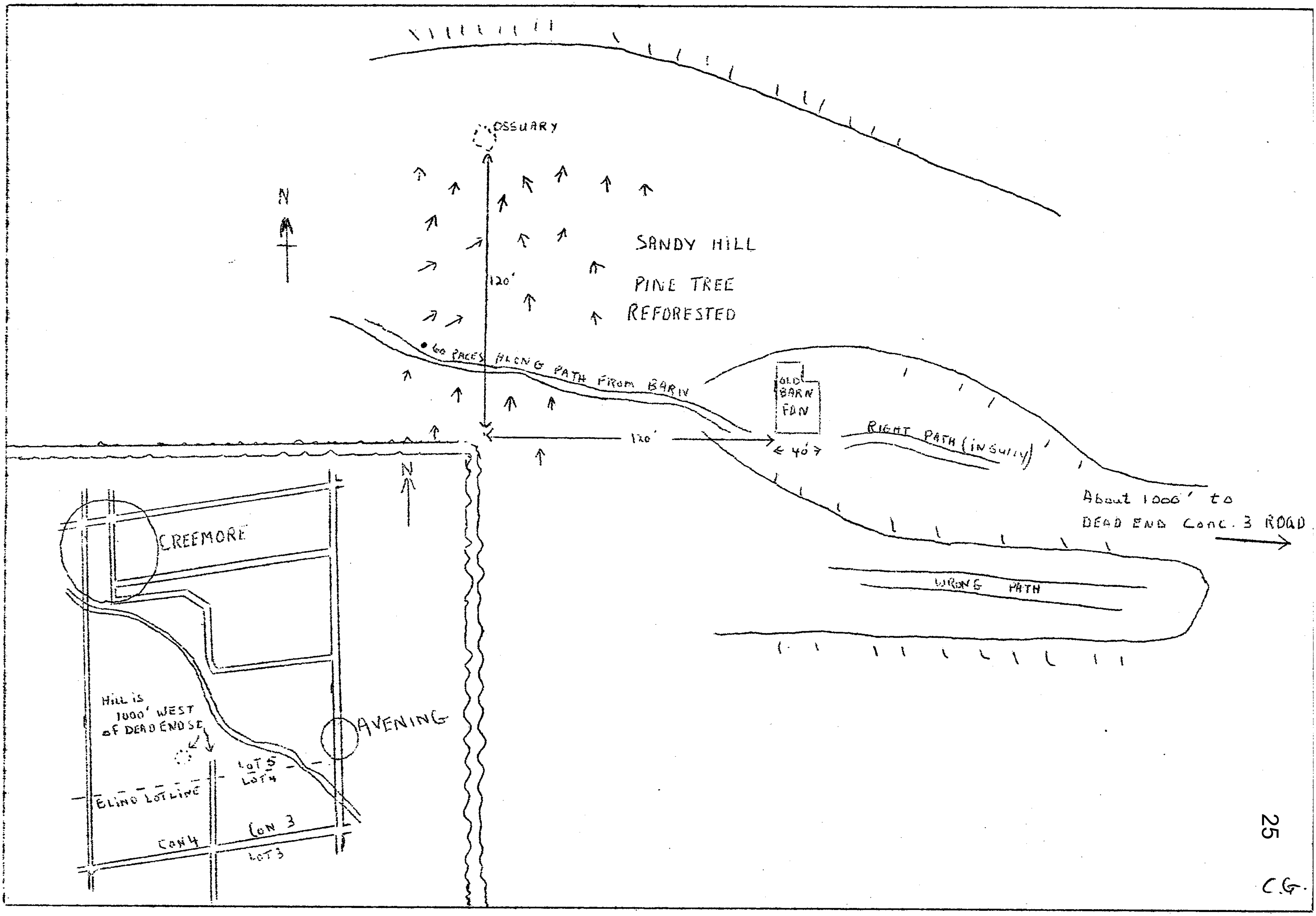
Reference to the Topographical Map for barn sites proved unproductive. We later learned that the barn had burned in 1905 and so did not appear on the map drawn in 1941, but that the foundations remained in excellent condition.

Standing on the 4th line at Lot 5, almost, we hoped, in the foot-prints of A.F. Hunter, we looked over the tremendously scenic landscape before us for a round-topped hill, and there it was, at the farthest end of the lot, covered with pine, but no barn foundation could be seen. A Circuitous journey through the Village of Creemore brought us to the far end of the hill, and lot 5, but still no barn foundation could be seen. However, we soon found that the foundation, solid stone, about two feet thick certainly exists, but it is located in a gully in the hill which so winds as to be perfect concealment. No trace of the ossuary could be readily seen, and on this occasion the project was abandonned until the owner could be contacted.

Mr. Bob Walker now owns both the former Rhodes farms on Lots 5 & 6, Both of which have abandonned barn foundations. Mr. Walker raises champion sheep, and trains imported sheepdogs, and we would thus understand any reluctance on his part to entertain strangers on his property. However, typical of the good people of Nottawasaga, Mr. Walker stopped work and gave our pleas a sympathetic ear, volunteering the information that only recently a relative had dug up some human bones from a shallow depression on the top of the hill visible from his house. Needless to say, with Mr. Walker's instructions we found the depression easily, and a small test hole, a spade's-width, yielded fragments of human skull, ribs and arm bones all in an extremely fragmentary condition, mute testimony to the destructive efforts of our predecessors.

The attached map shows that the ossuary is reached by first extending a line 120 feet westward along the south wall of the barn foundation, at this point turning exactly 90 degrees northerly, then straight for another 120 feet. This may suit the geometrically inclined but makes for uncomfortable measuring, requiring one to force oneself through pin trees and navigate blind, ignoring the path. A more comfortable, if less precise method is to pass the barn foundation

C.G.


N
OSSUARY
120'
SANDY HILL
PINE TREE
REFORESTED
60 PACES ALONG PATH FROM BARN
OLD BARN FDN
120'
← 40' →
RIGHT PATH (IN GULLY)
About 1000' to
DEAD END Conc. 3 ROAD
WRONG PATH
N
CREEMORE
AVENING
HILL IS
1000' WEST
of DEAD END ST.
LOT 5
LOT 4
BLIND LOTLINE
CON 4
CON 3
LOT 3

going westerly, keeping to the lowest part of the gully as it winds its way through the trees, for 60 paces. At this point climb the slope on the north (right) at its steepest most direct point, counting 20 paces. This should bring you just out of the trees, on the crest of the hill, at an irregular depression about 18 feet at the widest, 13 feet at the narrowest, and not more than two feet deep at the deepest.

The "Indian Fort" remains a mystery. Some firestones may be found on the hill, but if there are other evidences of Indian life, it is obscured in the pine bush. The "private road" used by the Huron Institute in 1908 is the regular farm track, open to horses and tractors perhaps, but not modern automobiles.

November 1964

REFERENCES

HUNTER, A.F., M.A. - Huron Village Sites, being an Appendix to the Report of the Minister of Education for the year 1906. Toronto 1907, contains the article "The opening of a Huron Bonepit" pp 31-34.

TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP Canada Sheet 41 a/8 east half (Collingwood), Department of National Defence, 1941,

A POSSIBLE HURON GARMENT SURVIVING FROM 17TH CENTURY ONTARIO

by Chas Garrad, 453 Jellicoe Crescent, London, Ontario.

The Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, England, was opened in 1683 to house several collections compiled even earlier. A collection of "rarities" by John Tradescant, obtained in 1675, came complete with a catalogue dated 1656 entitled "Musaeum Tradescantianum". Unfortunately this ancient catalogue gives but a brief description of the object, and provides no clue as to origin, how and from whom obtained, how authenticated and how brought to England. Items displayed in the cases today are provided not only with the " Musaeum Tradescantianum" description, but by necessity a somewhat longer explanation.

The photographs accompanying this paper are of a garment displayed with the following captions:

> AMERICAN INDIAN HUNTING SHIRT
>
> The oldest example still in existence, made of tanned deerskin decorated with dyed porcupine quills and pendants of deer's dew claws; probably from the Huron tribe. The tailoring shows European influence.

> A match-coat from Canada of Deerskin (Mus. Trad.)

Room for almost unlimited conjecture is left to the observer. The first point to enter one's mind is that the English could not have known of the existence ofthe Huron tribe. It was long after their dispersion of 1649/50 that the English met the "Dionondadies". The name "Canada" for many years was applied only to a certain part of the St. Lawrence Valley, and did not come to include Huronia until our own era. On the other hand the old record is quite insistent that the coat came from "Canada", the explanation "probably from the Huron tribe" having been added later by someone who apparently knew a little background. However, a little research quickly reveals a possible solution to the problem. In May 1629, Father Jean de Brebeuf was laboring among the Hurons when he received instrictions from Quebec to return there at once with as much corn as he could transport, for the 60 Frenchmen there were starving due to the loss of the supply fleet the year before. Some twenty canoes left Toanche in June, arriving at Quebec July 17th, 1629. Meanwhile the English war fleet of the Kirk brothers was heading for the same place, arriving only two days later, July 19th. Quebec formally surrendered July 20th. Both de Brefeuf and Champlain were deported to England when the ships sailed in September, and "in the days of waiting, de Brefeuf spent most of his time with the Hurons who had paddled him to Quebec" (NOTE)

Here then, the English, Ontario Hurons and Canada all got together at a sufficiently early time for this garment to join the Tradescent collection. The only other Indian garment in the same collection is Powhattan's cloak, given by Powhattan to Capt Christopher Newport in Virginia in 1608. Other than that they are of deerskin, the two garments bear no resemblance to each other.

In what way the "tailoring shows European influence" is difficult to say, unless is meant the stitched-on sleeves, and the epaulette-like decoration.

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Bibliography-

TALBOT Francis X. S.J. - "Saint Among the Hurons" Garden City 1956, page 87.